2017 Charles E. Shannon Community Safety Initiative

PITTSFIELD

Funded Partners

Berkshire Children and Families, Pittsfield Police Department

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts's Charles E. Shannon Community Safety Initiative (Shannon) is modeled after the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Gang Model (CGM). Shannon is a multi-sector approach used to address a community's gang and youth violence problem. Each community receiving Shannon funding demonstrates the presence of risk factors for youth and gang violence. In each Shannon community, partners implement strategies that align with the CGM and respond to community problems. These strategies include education and employment opportunities, case management and street outreach or intervention, positive youth development and recreation, and coordinating a law enforcement response through suppression. Shannon participants must be between the ages of 10-24 years, live in a high-risk area, and be high-risk or at-risk of becoming involved, or are currently involved, in gang activity. To learn more visit: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/shannon-community-safety-initiative-csi

Funding Allocation



95 Total Youth Served

65% At-Risk

Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity due to the presence of known risk factors such as exposure to gang affiliates in their home or community.

35% High-Risk

Youth exposed to the same risk factors as at-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as school failure, dropping out, truancy, substance abuse, and gang involvement as an affiliate or member not yet participating in violent criminal activity.

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Youth who are perpetrators or victims of shooting or stabbing violence, and/or are known gang members.

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=10% of Youth Served

Shannon Strategies & Outcomes

Positive Youth Development & Recreation*



Participated in Positive Youth Development Programs

95

Developed Communication and Conflict Resolution Skills

68

Case Management & Street Outreach or Intervention



Received Case Management Services

95

Referred to Education, Employment, or Mental Health Services

31

95

Received Street Outreach Services

Stayed Away From Gang Activity

85

Suppression



200

Overtime Hours Spent on Hot Spot Patrols 20

Hot Spot Patrols Completed

Community Mobilization



820

People Attended Events, Meetings, and Presentations 25
Community Events,
Meetings, and

* Positive Youth Development refers to intentional efforts to provide opportunities for youth to enhance their interests, skills, and abilities.

Massachusetts	Community Risk Factors	Pittsfield
6,811,779	Total Population (2016 Estimate)	42,846
11.4%	Population Lives in Poverty	16.7%
3.8%	Unemployment Rate	4.8%
953,748	Total School Population) (2016-2017)	5,487
30.2%	Economically Disadvantaged	49.8%
1.8%	High School Dropout Rate	3.4%

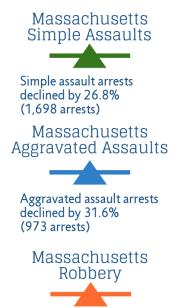
Sources: www.census.gov/quickfacts; profiles.doe.mass.edu/; www.mass.gov/lwd/economic-data/

Gang Activity in Pittsfield

25+ Street Gangs

500 Gang Members During 2017, the Pittsfield Police Department identified 500 gang members associated with the Bloods, the Crips, and Latin Kings. Currently, the most violent gangs in Pittsfield are associated as Blood sets. There was an increase in gang-related shootings, stabbings, and other acts of violence in 2017. Witness intimidation and fear of retribution have been an impediment in prosecuting violent offenders.

5-Year Crime Trends for Young People Ages 10-24, 2013-2017



Robbery arrests declined

by 36.5% (292 arrests)

